

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 02561 051918Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 OC-06 CCO-00

/080 W

-----060245Z 071659 /63

R 041650Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9672

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 2561

DEPARTMENT PASS FAA/AIA; BRUSSELS AND PARIS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR-THREAT OF AIR CONTROLLER EASTER SLOWDOWN AND STATUS  
OF FAA AGREEMENT ON ADVISORY TEAM

1. SPANISH PRESS APRIL 2 REPORTS DECISION ALLEGEDLY TAKEN BY AIR  
TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS IN BARCELONA TO AFFECT SLOWDOWN OVER EASTER WEEK  
HOLIDAY WHEN AREA AIR TRAFFIC EXPECTED TO INCREASE SOME 200 PERCENT.  
CONTROLLERS REPORTEDLY FEEL THAT TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT AND HUMAN  
RESOURCES INSUFFICIENT TO HANDLE MORE THAN NORMAL TRAFFIC LOAD.  
SHOULD CONTROLLERS CARRY OUT THREAT, PRESS REPORTS CLAIM RESULT WOULD  
BE "ABSOLUTE COLLAPSE" OF AIR TRAFFIC IN AREA, INCLUDING MAY EUROPEAN  
TRANSIT FLIGHTS.

2. DURING APRIL 4 CALL WITH NTSB INVESTIGATORS DREIFUS AND CARMONA  
IN CONNECTION WITH KLM/PAN AM DISASTER, EMBOFF WAS INFORMED BY  
GENERAL

MONTEL, SUBSECRETARY FOR CIVIL AVIATION, SPANISH AIR MINISTRY, THAT  
IT APPEARS CONTROLLERS WILL NOT CARRY OUT PLANS FOR SLOWDOWN.

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PAGE 02 MADRID 02561 051918Z

HOWEVER, MONTEL ADMITTED THAT THE THREAT OF SLOWDOWN, COMBINED  
WITH PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH KLM/APNAM INVESTIGATION, HAD FORCED  
HIM TO CANCEL PLANS TO FLY TO MONTREAL APRIL 11 FOR ICAO MEETING.  
INSTEAD, DIRECTOR OF AIR TRANSPORT GENERAL YNIGUEZ WILL HEAD  
SPAIN'S DELEGATION FROM BEGINNING OF MEETING.

3. EMBOFF ASKED MONTEL ABOUT STATUS OF FAA MEMORANDUM OF

AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH CIVIL AVIATION ADVISORY GROUP (CAAG) IN MADRID. MONTEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT AGREEMENT WAS IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR APPROVAL. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT FAA WAS WELL ALONG IN RECRUITING TEAM MEMBERS AND EARLY CONFIRMATION OF GOS AGREEMENT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION. MONTEL SAID HE WOULD PERSONALLY CHECK INTO MATTER AND INFORM EMBASSY.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY HOPEFUL THAT MONTEL'S PERSONAL INTEREST, PLUS THREAT (AND POSSIBLE REALITY) OF RENEWED CONTROLLER SLOWDOWN WILL FORCE RAPID APPROVAL OF FAA AGREEMENT. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS GOS ACTION TO DEGREE POSSIBLE. EATON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, THREATS, LABOR STRIKES, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CIVAIR-THREAT OF AIR CONTROLLER EASTER SLOWDOWN AND STATUS OF FAA AGREEMENT ON ADVISORY TEAM  
**TAGS:** EAIR, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009